

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Canceled)

13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) A method for surface treatment comprising the steps of:

supplying cleaning gas to an object to be processed while cooling the object so as to keep the cleaning gas inactive and to make the cleaning gas adhere to a surface of the object;

stopping supply of the cleaning gas and heating the object to activate the cleaning gas adhering to the surface of the object so as to remove oxide formed on the surface of the object; and

subjecting the object to reducing gas activated by plasma to remove substance derived from the cleaning gas still remaining on the surface of the object.

15. (Currently Amended) A method for surface treatment according to claim ~~46~~ 14 wherein, in the step of supplying cleaning gas to the object, the object mounted on a mount is cooled by cooling the mount.

16. (Currently Amended) A method for surface treatment according to claim 14 wherein, in the step of heating the object, the object is positioned apart from ~~the~~ a mount.

17. (Currently Amended) A method for surface treatment according to claim 14 wherein, the cleaning gas ~~if~~ is fluorine-containing gas.

18. (Original) A method for surface treatment according to claim 14 wherein, the cleaning gas is chlorine-containing gas.

19. (Original) A method for surface treatment according to claim 14 wherein, the reducing gas is H₂ gas.

20. (Original) A method for surface treatment according to claim 14 wherein, in the step of supplying cleaning gas to the object, the temperature of the surface of the object is 20°C or below.

21. (Currently Amended) A method for surface treatment comprising the steps of:

supplying cleaning gas to an object to be processed while cooling the object as to keep the cleaning gas inactive and to make the cleaning gas adhere to a surface of the object;

stopping supply of the cleaning gas and emitting ultraviolet rays to activate the cleaning gas adhering to the surface of the object so as to remove oxide formed on the surface of the object; and

subjecting the object to reducing gas activated by plasma to remove substance derived from the cleaning gas still remaining on the surface of the object.

22. (New) A method for surface treatment comprising the steps of:
- supplying cleaning gas to an object to be processed while cooling the object so as to make the cleaning gas adhere to a surface of the object;
- heating the object to activate the cleaning gas adhering to the surface of the object so as to remove oxide formed on the surface of the object, wherein the object is positioned apart from a mount; and
- subjecting the object to reducing gas activated by plasma to remove substance derived from the cleaning gas still remaining on the surface of the object.